LETTER FROM THE SNOW COUNTRY

It would help us in cold climates to have someone write an article in the Seed Pod on how to care for our hibiscus, which are grown in containers – when to fertilize and what to use – when to prune – what temperature they thrive in – what to use as a spray and when to spray. My greenhouse is too cold for hibiscus. We grow camellias in there. I bring my plants in the house. They do pretty well but shed quite a few leaves and pretty soon they get tiny white bugs on them.

Any advise I can get will be appreciated very much.

Mrs. Horace N. Smith
Rosecote – 21 So. Reese St.
Memphis 11, Tennessee

Would some of our members in the north like to answer Mrs. Smith's request for information. We would appreciate an article from growers with experience in the northern culture of H. rosa-sinensis.

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QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

This year the Board Meeting will NOT be held in connection with the winter judged hibiscus show at the Florida State Fair.

The next Board Meeting will be held March 6th and 7th at Cape Coral. The headquarters will be the Nautilus-Congress Inn, Cape Coral. Reservations should be made direct to the Nautilus-Congress Inn.

There will be a tour of the hibiscus gardens at Cape Coral and a look at the "Waltzing Waters". This alone will make the trip well worth your while. As a bonus you will get the fellowship of being with fellow hibiscus "nuts".

Be sure to make your reservations and be with the officers on March 6th and 7th.

HIBISCUS HOBBY BLOSSOMS INTO NEW CAREER

Mrs. August M. Miller has embarked on the career of placing the Hibiscus, the official state flower of Hawaii, on the map of the world.

Mrs. Miller and her husband have sent rare varieties of hibiscus that they have developed to Japan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Formosa, Thailand, India, Australia, the Mainland United States and other places.

Mrs. Miller was trained to be a teacher and has a degree in education from the University of Hawaii, where she majored in science. She taught for 21 years, retiring about 10 years ago. Mr. Miller retired about the same time.

The Millers started growing hibiscus about 15 years ago with three plants. They now have perfected over 100 varieties as a result of their crossing. The perfect hibiscus, according to Mrs. Miller, has texture, with petals that overlap and are waxy so that the bloom lasts more than one day. They are not very easy to satisfy where blooms are concerned. They have thrown away "imperfect" flowers by the hundreds.

It is a source of great satisfaction to the Millers

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